

rieures du corps est beaucoup moins jaunâtre. Dans l'adulte et dans le jeune les plus longues moustaches n'atteignent pas l'oreille.

Monsieur Stolzmann annonce dans sa dernière lettre la capture d'une Belette différente de toutes ces espèces, plus grande que la *M. macroua* et distincte par quelques détails de la coloration, ce qui confirme l'opinion de M. Tschudi, exprimée dans sa 'Fauna Peruana,' sur l'existence de plusieurs espèces de cet genre dans les Andes de l'Amérique méridionale.

5. On the Hymenoptera collected by Prof. I. Bayley Balfour in Socotra. By W. F. KIRBY, Assistant in the Zoological Department, British Museum.

[Received April 23, 1881.]

The small collection of insects lately made in Socotra by Prof. Balfour, and deposited in the British Museum, contained only six specimens of Hymenoptera, belonging to four species. Of these, two are apparently new to science, and the others are well-known and wide-ranging species, the occurrence of which in the island is in nowise remarkable.

I proceed to enumerate the species as follows:—

APIDÆ.

1. XYLOCOPA ÆSTUANS.

Apis æstuans, Linn. Syst. Nat. i. p. 579. no. 37 (1758).

A well-known and widely distributed East-Indian species.

VESPIDÆ.

2. BELENOGASTER SAUSSUREI, sp. n.

Exp. al. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. ; long. corp. 11 lines.

Not closely allied to any known species.

Head, antennæ, prothorax, scutellum, postscutellum, legs, and abdomen of a lively chestnut colour; meso- and metathorax, sides of pectus, and segments 2 and 3 of the abdomen black. The prothorax is indistinctly and narrowly bordered with yellowish; and the mouth-parts are more or less yellow in the male. The first segment of the abdomen is distinctly bordered behind with yellow, most broadly on the upper part of the sides. The thorax, scutellum, &c. are finely punctured; and there are three very shallow longitudinal grooves on the mesothorax, and a more distinct groove in the middle of the metathorax. Wings smoky brown, with iridescent reflections; nervures brown or reddish brown; yellowish towards the base and along the costa and inner margin of the fore wings.

POMPILIDÆ.

3. MYGNIMIA EXTRANEA, sp. n.

Exp. al. 2 in. 1 line to 2 in. 6 lines; long. corp. 1 in. to 1 in. 5 lines.

Allied to *M. vindex*, Smith, from S. Africa, and *M. prodigiosa*, Gerst., from E. Africa.

Male. Head, antennæ, prothorax, and legs reddish, a very narrow bright red line round the eyes, and the mouth also shading into bright red; mesothorax black above, with three carinæ in front, and a broad raised ridge behind; scutellum deeply incised; metathorax oval, truncated behind, and clothed with long hair. Pectus and abdomen clothed with a coppery green pile; the middle of the pectus with a few long grey hairs. Wings deep purple or violet, with blue and green reflections.

Female. Similar, but with the red colouring less marked, especially on the head and prothorax.

SPHEGIDÆ.

4. PELOPÆUS ÆGYPTIUS.

Sphex ægyptiæ, Linn. Syst. Nat. i. p. 569, no. 4 (1758).

Sphex spirifex, Linn. loc. cit. p. 570. no. 8.

A common species in South Europe, and apparently spread over nearly the whole of Africa.

6. On the Range of *Apogon ellioti*. By FRANCIS DAY, F.Z.S.

[Received April 29, 1881.]

Apogon nigripinnis, Günther, Catal. i. 1859, p. 235; Playfair, Fish. Zanzibar, 1866, p. 20 (not Cuv. & Val. ii. p. 152).

A. ellioti, Day, Fishes of India, part. i. 1875, p. 63, pl. xvii. fig. 1.

A. arafuræ, n. sp., Günther, Shore Fishes of 'Challenger,' 1880, p. 38, pl. xvi. fig. c.

Among the littoral forms of fishes collected by the 'Challenger' are some which appear to me to have a much wider range than is adverted to in the late interesting contribution to our ichthyological knowledge. Having been in London last week, I took the opportunity of re-examining the forms in the national Museum recorded as *A. nigripinnis*, and likewise the fine single example of *A. arafuræ* brought home by the Expedition from the Arafura Sea.

I would premise that, having had the opportunity of comparing the example at the Jardin des Plantes, said to be the type of *A. nigripinnis*, C. V., with the one I figured in the 'Fishes of India,' pl. xvi. fig. 6, I feel confident of their being identical. I also think that there can exist but little reasonable doubt that most of the specimens named *A. nigripinnis* in the British Museum are young examples of *A. ellioti*. They were received from Zanzibar, the East Indies, and China.

When I published the 'Fishes of India,' I only possessed two examples from India. Since that time, owing to the kindness of Dr.